

awaiting an organ transplant. Today there are not enough organs for everyone who needs them. Even with the growing number of transplants performed, on average, there is an increase in the number of patients on the national waiting list every day. Today there are more than 65,000 people awaiting an organ transplant, and at least 11 people die each day while waiting for an organ.

In simple terms, the biggest problem facing transplant patients is the shortage of organs. One way that you can help address this health care crisis is to talk to your friends and families about the importance of organ and tissue donation.

I stand before you today to ask for your help. We need to work together to increase the awareness about the importance of organ and tissue donation. I ask you to join us in cosponsoring House Resolution 247, a resolution that recognizes and supports National Donor Day. National Donor Day is organized by Saturn and the United Auto Workers, along with a number of organ foundations, health organizations, and the Department of Health and Human Services.

They have established February 12, 2000, as National Donor Day 2000. This day is dedicated to educating people about the Five Points of Life. This weekend this coalition is again joining forces for the third time to bring us together for a National Donor Day. This is America's largest one-day donation event.

Held just before Valentine's Day, the first two donor days raised a total of 17,000 units of blood, added over 24,000 potential donors to the National Marrow Donor Registry and distributed tens of thousands of organ and tissue pledge cards.

You and I, your friends and families, can participate in this historic event by, one, giving blood or pledging to give blood; two, volunteering with the National Marrow Donor Program; or, three, filling out an organ and tissue donation pledge card and agreeing to discuss the decision with family members.

I would also like to take a moment to thank these people and groups in my district, including Saturn in Gainesville, along with Lifesouth Community Blood Centers in Gainesville and other groups and individuals for pulling together to host a donation event on National Donor Day in the Fifth District of Florida.

I urge everyone to talk to their friends and families about the importance of organ donation and to let others know about this year's National Organ Donor Day. Do not forget, it is February 12, 2000. We are counting on you.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Florida (Mr. SCARBOROUGH) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. SCARBOROUGH addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

H.R. 3620—THE SECOND CHANCE IRA ACT OF 2000

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from California (Mr. HORN) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. HORN. Mr. Speaker, every Member of this House knows that although we have a Federal budget surplus now, we still face a very low national savings rate. That is because individuals simply do not or cannot save a significant portion of their income. That suggests to me that we must do more to encourage savings, particularly among younger Americans who need to begin building the savings that will help them have a secure retirement.

The difficulties of many younger people were illustrated to me recently by a 38-year-old constituent. He outlined a personal and a generational dilemma.

He mentioned, "When I graduated from school and entered the workforce, I had too many student loans and too little income to put away \$2,000 a year in an IRA. Now I make enough to contribute to an IRA, but I am not allowed to make up for the past 10 years of tax deductible contributions. Why not change the law to let me make up those lost contributions and maximize my IRA?"

Mr. Speaker, that is a very good question, and today I am introducing legislation and will try to give an answer to a good question.

This legislation is called the Second Chance IRA Act of Year 2000, H.R. 3620, and I am pleased that 23 Representatives are joining with me as original cosponsors.

Our bill simply says that if you were eligible to make an IRA contribution in the past and did not make one, you can make the contribution in the current year and take the tax deduction up to a maximum \$2,000. That would be in addition to any current IRA contribution and deduction that you are eligible to make. That means a qualifying individual could deduct a total of \$4,000 a year and a qualifying couple could deduct up to \$8,000 a year.

This legislation offers a powerful incentive for young people to make up their missed opportunities and to save for the future. It also offers an opportunity for women to build a retirement account after being out of the work force to raise a family or to care for a parent. In short, we give a second chance to those who have failed to maximize their savings and who were denied that chance due to circumstances beyond their control.

The Second Chance IRA Act aims to encourage personal responsibility and to maximize personal flexibility in building a secure retirement amid the many insecurities of the 21st Century economy where every person will have multiple careers with multiple employ-

ers. Let us help these young people to move forward with confidence by allowing them to fill in blank spots in their IRA ledger.

Mr. Speaker, I thank the Members who have joined me today in this effort. I urge all of my colleagues to review the proposal and to join us in cosponsoring this legislation.

Mr. Speaker, I include for the RECORD the text of the bill and the original cosponsors.

H.R. 3620

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "____ Act of 1999".

SEC. 2. MAXIMUM IRA DEDUCTION INCREASED BY PORTION OF UNUSED PRIOR DEDUCTION LIMITATIONS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Subparagraph (A) of section 219(b)(1) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 (relating to maximum amount of deduction) is amended to read as follows:

"(A) the sum of—

"(i) \$2,000, and

"(ii) the lesser of—

"(I) \$2,000, or

"(II) the aggregate of the unused deduction limitations (as defined in paragraph (5)) for all prior taxable years, or".

(b) UNUSED DEDUCTION LIMITATION.—Subsection (b) of section 219 of such Code is amended by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

"(5) UNUSED DEDUCTION LIMITATION.—For purposes of paragraph (1), the unused deduction limitation for any prior taxable year is the excess of—

"(A) the lesser of—

"(i) \$2,000, or

"(ii) the compensation includible in the individual's gross income for such taxable year, over

"(B) the amount of qualified retirement contributions of such individual for such taxable year."

(c) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—Sections 408(a)(1), 408(b), 408(j), and 408(p)(8) of such Code are each amended by striking "\$2,000" each place it appears and inserting "\$4,000".

(d) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply to taxable years beginning after the date of the enactment of this Act.

CO-SPONSORS FOR H.R. 3620

Mr. Houghton, Mrs. Johnson of Connecticut, Mr. Gilman, Mr. Bilbray, Mr. Boehlert, Mr. Calvert, Mr. Oxley, Mr. Biggert, Mr. Gallegly, Mr. Gibbons, Mr. Gilchrest, Mr. Greenwood, Mr. Hefley, Mr. Istook, Mr. Kingston, Mr. Kuykendall, Mr. LaHood, Mr. Mica, Mr. Paul, Ms. Pryce of Ohio, Mr. Smith of Michigan, Mr. Weldon of Pennsylvania, and Mr. Walden of Oregon.

TRIBUTE TO VOLA LAWSON, A TRULY REMARKABLE AMERICAN

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. MORAN) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. MORAN of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize a truly remarkable American, Vola Lawson, who will be retiring on March 1st. For 30 years Vola has been a beacon of dedication to public service.

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She has been my mentor, my heroine, and my inspiration. To say that Vola